

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer system comprising:  
a server operable to interface with a network, the  
server comprising a component that is assigned a media  
5 access control (MAC) address; and  
a target operable to interface with the initiator,  
the target comprising a worldwide name incorporating the  
MAC address.
- 10 2. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein:  
the MAC address comprises a forty-eight bit MAC  
address; and  
the world wide name comprises a sixty-four bit world  
wide name incorporating the forty-eight bit MAC address.
- 15 3. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the  
target comprises a disk drive.
4. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the  
20 target comprises a tape drive.
5. The computer system of Claim 1, further  
comprising an application module associated with the  
server, the application module operable to generate the  
25 worldwide name.
6. The computer system of Claim 1, further  
comprising an application module associated with the  
server, the application module operable to:

read the MAC address from the component;  
assign a vendor specified identifier to the target;  
and

generate the worldwide name by appending the vendor  
5 specified identifier to the MAC address.

7. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the MAC  
address comprises:

a company identification field; and  
10 a first vendor field.

8. The computer system of Claim 1, wherein the  
worldwide name comprises:

the MAC address, the MAC address comprising:  
15 a company identification field; and  
a first vendor field;  
a second vendor field; and  
a network address authority field.

20 9. The computer system of Claim 1, further  
comprising a plurality of targets operable to interface  
with the network, each target comprising a unique  
worldwide name incorporating the MAC address.

25 10. A computer system comprising:  
a server operable to interface with a fibre channel  
network, the server comprising a network interface card  
(NIC) having a media access control (MAC) address;  
a storage device interfaced with the server; and

an application module associated with the server application module operable to generate a worldwide name for the storage device, the worldwide name incorporating the MAC address.

5        11. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein the MAC address comprises:

        a company identification field; and  
        a first vendor field.

10        12. The computer system of Claim 10, wherein the worldwide name comprises:

        the MAC address, the MAC address comprising:

                a company identification field; and

                a first vendor field, the first vendor field

15        comprising a first vendor specified identifier;

                a second vendor field, the second vendor field

comprising a second vendor specified identifier; and

        a network address authority field.

20        13. The computer system of Claim 12, further comprising the application module operable to:

        read the MAC address of the NIC;

        assign the second vendor specified identifier to the storage device; and

25        generate the worldwide name for the storage device by appending the vendor specified identifier to the MAC address.

14. The computer system of Claim 10, further comprising a plurality of storage devices interfaced with the fibre channel network.

5        15. The computer system of Claim 14, further comprising the application module operable to generate a unique worldwide name for each of the plurality of storage devices by incorporating the MAC address with a selected unique identifiers .

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16. A method for generating worldwide names  
comprising:

reading a media access control (MAC) address for a  
network interface card (NIC) associated with a server  
5 operable to interface with a network;  
identifying a target interfaced with the server;  
assigning a vendor specified identifier to the  
target; and  
appending the vendor specified identifier to the MAC  
10 address to create a worldwide name for the target.

17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising:  
reading a forty-eight bit MAC address from the NIC;;  
assigning a sixteen bit vendor specified identifier  
15 to the target; and  
the worldwide name comprises a sixty-four bit world  
wide name incorporating the sixteen bit vendor specified  
identifier and the forty-eight bit MAC address.

20 18. The method of Claim 16, wherein the network  
comprises a fibre channel network.

19. The method of Claim 16, wherein identifying the  
target comprises identifying a storage device.

20. The method of Claim 19, further comprising:  
identifying a plurality of targets interfaced with  
the network;  
assigning a unique vendor specified identifier to  
5 each of the plurality of targets; and  
appending each unique vendor specified identifier to  
the MAC address to create the worldwide name for each of  
the plurality of targets.